

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims as indicated below:

1. (Previously Presented) An injection molding method, comprising the steps of:

providing a mold having a mold cavity formed therein;

locating an electrical circuit within said mold cavity, wherein said electrical circuit comprises electrical components assembled to an electrical circuit board prior to any molding operations thereof;

configuring said mold to provide a mold form geometry that permits a plurality of components to be connected electrically to said electrical circuit and an associated latch mechanism after said injection molding of said plastics material into said mold cavity;

configuring said mold form geometry to comprise at least one gap in which an additional component can be located; and

injection molding a plastics material into said mold cavity of said mold to produce a latch component, wherein said plastics material covers and seals said electrical circuit to provide insulation and environmental protection to said electrical circuit.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

integrating said latch component within a latch mechanism, wherein said electrical circuit communicates electrically with said latch mechanism.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2 wherein the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry to possess at least one plastic mounting surface feature.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 wherein the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry~~
to possess at least one plastic pivot feature.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry to~~
possess at least one plastic flange feature.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 wherein the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry~~
to possess at least one plastic seal feature.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 wherein the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry~~
to possess at least one plastic mating feature.

10. (Currently Amended) An injection molding method for electrical circuit, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a mold having a mold cavity formed therein;

locating an electrical circuit within said mold cavity, wherein said electrical circuit comprises electrical components assembled to an electrical circuit board prior to any molding operations thereof;

injection molding a plastics material into said mold cavity of said mold to produce a latch component, wherein said plastics material covers and seals said electrical circuit to provide insulation and environmental protection to said electrical circuit;

integrating said latch component within a latch mechanism, wherein said electrical circuit communicates electrically with said latch mechanism; and

~~configuring said mold to provide a mold form geometry that permits~~electrically connecting a plurality of components ~~to be connected electrically~~ to said electrical circuit and said latch mechanism after said integration of said latch component into said latch mechanism.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said latch mechanism comprises a vehicle door latch of a vehicle door latch assembly.

12-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An injection molding method for electrical circuits, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a mold having a mold cavity formed therein;

locating an electrical circuit within said mold cavity, wherein said electrical circuit comprises electrical components assembled to an electrical circuit board prior to any molding operations thereof;

injection molding a plastics material into said mold cavity of said mold to produce a latch component, wherein said plastics material covers and seals said electrical circuit to provide insulation and environmental protection to said electrical circuit;

integrating said latch component within a latch mechanism, wherein said electrical circuit communicates electrically with said latch mechanism, wherein said latch mechanism comprises a vehicle door latch of a vehicle door latch assembly; and

configuring said mold to provide a mold form geometry that comprises at least one gap in which an additional component can be located; and
~~_____~~, wherein said mold form geometry permits electrically connecting a plurality of components to ~~be connected electrical~~ to said electrical circuit and said latch mechanism after said integration of said latch component into said latch mechanism.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:
———~~configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component comprises at least one plastic mounting surface feature.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:
———~~configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component comprises at least one plastic pivot feature.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:
———~~configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component comprises at least one plastic flange feature.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:
———~~configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component comprises at least one plastic seal feature.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:
———~~configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component comprises at least one plastic mating feature.